

Poultry.

Keep Out the Cats.

High betting alone will not keep out certain rubber cats made bold and skillful through many years of chicken hunting expeditions. F. Sadov, the pheasant breeder of Amityville, N. Y., has made his various coops absolutely proof by extending the posts with a foot of hoop iron, bent outward at the end, and attaching another foot wide strip of netting to these supports.

Coop Fattening of Chickens.

The experience of practical feeders in this method of fattening poultry is quoted by one of the poultry papers, the system is explained in detail, and the construction of feeding crates and buildings for sheltering them, the comparative value of different feeds, the superior value of raw, overcooked feeds, slaughtering, marketing and dressing, and other topics are considered, and a number of test ratings suggested. The problem of standard types for crate fattening is also taken up, and it is pointed out that the desirable characteristics are present in the American class of poultry.

Attention is directed to the fact that after dressing chickens should be thoroughly cooled before packing, and the author considers it desirable to keep them for ten to twenty-four hours at a temperature of 30° to 35°. A one-layer wooden shipping case is, in his opinion, the most desirable for shipping. The tray should be lined with paraffin paper, and the chickens neatly arranged.

Tests were made of the amounts of edible flesh on crate-fattened and other birds with six pairs of Barred Plymouth Rock cockerels, each pair weighing on an average seven pounds eight ounces. Two birds were killed at the beginning of the test, and weighed together, plucked but not drawn, six pounds eight ounces. After cooking the edible flesh was removed and weighed one pound ten ounces. The weight of the bones was twelve ounces and of the offal two pounds four ounces.

The author states that the chickens killed cost sixteen cents per pound, and calculates that the edible flesh cost sixty-four cents per pound. The remaining ten cockerels were fed in crates for three weeks, the average live weight at the end of this time being twelve pounds per pair. Two cockerels were killed, their weight when plucked but not drawn being ten pounds twelve ounces. The cooked edible meat weighed five pounds, the bones eighteen ounces and the offal four pounds ten ounces. The author assumes that the crate-fed birds cost twenty cents per pound and calculates that the edible flesh, therefore, cost forty-two cents per pound. He calls attention to the fact that in addition to being cheaper the flesh of the crate-fed birds was markedly superior as regards flavor and quality.

Poultry Always a Good Crop.

The poultry crop, unlike all other crops, is not dependent upon climatic conditions. The corn crop sometimes fails. Potatoes may rot and in many fields this fall was not worth harvesting. In a dry season pastures are short and hay light, making milk cost as much or more than it sells for. But no matter what the weather conditions, the poultry and egg crop can be depended on for a fair percentage of profit.

The past season has been favorable for the production of poultry and eggs. In this vicinity eggs did not hatch as well as usual, but the mortality of young chickens was less than common, a larger per cent. of the hatch being raised. Eggs sold at a higher average price, and the high prices of dressed poultry have been sustained much later than usual.

In our own experience the hens have paid better than usual. We began the year with 116 hens; sixty Rhode Island Reds and fifty-six American Dominiques; two died in February, five were killed in March, seven sold in July, and twelve sold Labor Day leaving ninety, or an average of about one hundred for the year.

During the year, Jan. 1, 1905 to Jan. 1, 1906, we sold 1335 dozen eggs for \$376.67, average 28 1/2 cents per dozen. Live and dressed poultry have been sustained much later than usual. We had thirty-five pullets and ten cockerels raised from the one hundred. We used about one hundred dozen eggs at home for hatching and table, and twenty or more chickens used for home consumption, of which no account has been made. Pullets began laying in December, and six or seven dozen eggs should be credited to them instead of the hens.

We feed about as others do for eggs. Morning feed for 130 head, ten quarts bran and cornmeal mixture and two quarts beef scraps mixed to a dry mash with skimmed milk, and all the milk they will drink through the day. At noon we feed six quarts cracked corn and six or seven quarts cracked corn at night. Seventeen eggs was smallest number laid any day in the year, and eighty-seven the largest. The average cost of feed was about \$1.50 per hen.

R. M. CANTER.

Mites and Hawks.

In his lectures before the students of the agricultural department of the University of Missouri last week, T. E. Orr, secretary of the American Poultry Association, told methods of combating mites and chicken hawks that might easily be used by every Missouri housewife.

Mites, he says, may be gotten rid of by spraying the chicken house with a mixture of one part crude carbolic acid and eight parts carbon oil. This mixture he recommends in preference to mite exterminators sold by traveling agents. Hawks, he claims, may be kept off of the poultry yard by attaching bright pieces of tin, six by ten inches, to the trees and poles surrounding quarters, by strings two feet long so that the wind will make the bright metal dance in the sunlight.

Horticultural.

Tomatoes Under Glass.

The hot-house tomato crop is considered rather less profitable for the space occupied than either cucumbers or lettuce. A tomato plant requires rather higher temperature and there is considerable expense for coal. The crop, however, is a fairly easy one to raise, being less subject to destructive diseases than some others, and being less particular as to requirements of soil, etc. Most beginners seem to do fairly well with tomatoes, and the crop is no doubt a paying one in average years. The yield should be from eight to twelve pounds or more of fruit per plant, and the range of prices is commonly between fifteen and thirty cents per pound. The young plants are started in seed beds or flats and transplanted when about three inches high, when they begin to crowd. Later they are transferred to six-inch pots

and sometimes transplanted a third time before placing in the benches where they are to mature. Transplanting not only gives them more room to grow, but makes harder and more stalky plants.

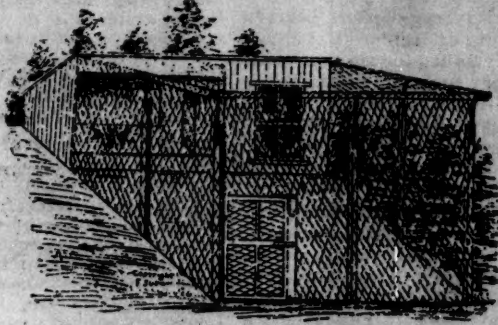
Any good loamy soil will answer for tomatoes. The best success is generally obtained in setting them in solid beds, although many growers use benches or pots. The temperature should range from 60° to 65°, running up to 80° during the sunny days. Nitrogen fertilizers are especially good, including stable manure and nitrate of soda. The crop requires about 100 days from seeding and about seventy-five days after the final transplanting. To effect pollination a camel's hair brush is used. Some growers shake the plants sending the pollen to the stigmas. Mildew, rot, leaf blight, and other attacks, but not usually to an extent sufficient to endanger the crop under skilled management. Mildew is easily controlled by keeping down the moisture of the house.

Raspberry Culture.

(By the veteran berry culturist, M. H. Vincent of Conway, Mass., at the Fruit Growers' Meeting, Worcester, March 15.)

From my experience in fruit growing there is no fruit from which I have derived so much pleasure as the red raspberry.

I have an unbroken record of forty years in this business, as also in raising most lines of fruit adapted to our climate, but the raspberry has been a specialty with me,



HOUSE WITH CAT-PROOF YARD.

and its cultivation always a work of love. I have been a pioneer in the different localities I have been in and I probably anticipate most of the present cultivators. It is not alone that it has been a profitable fruit to raise, but its cultivation is a clean, every way agreeable work. The berries have always found a ready market, a delicious, healthful, nutritious fruit. Our first crop was marketed in Philadelphia at sixty cents per quart by the crate the entire season through; we paid \$20 per hundred for plants to get our start, and had a berry so far inferior to our present varieties that it would not meet with a very ready sale even at low prices.

The methods of cultivation are very simple and easily understood. The selection of varieties is very important and should always be entered upon with caution and in a small way until the new berry has been thoroughly tested. There is one variety that may be always relied upon. That is the Outhbert, which does well in all localities. We have a long list of good varieties, yet some do not succeed in all localities. Those which we have found good in our experience are Turner, Marlboro and Hansell. We have tried many sorts, but have fallen back on Hansell for early and Outhbert for late.

The best all-around soil for the red raspberry is a light, sandy loam, which is easily tilled and in all ways best adapted to their perfect development and growth.

In planting we set them in rows three by six feet and give thorough cultivation; by that we mean at least twice a week, and frequent hoeing, up to the middle of July. The summer pruning or shortening back the new growth we omit, letting them grow as they will in this manner. We have no



POLLENATING.

trouble from snow staying on the laterals and splitting down from main cane. For fertilizer we use bone and high grade sulphate of potash, preferring this to stable manure for both quantity and quality of fruit. We cut out the old canes as soon as the fruit is off, dropping the canes between the rows until the following spring. After the new wood is pruned all is cleaned out at once. We use only the cultivator among our berries and think it better than the plow.

One of the most important points in the business is the kind of package and general good appearance of the fruit when it reaches market. In spite of the gift boxes we have fought our way through on the large surface and shallow depth box, one inch deep and six inches square for a pint.

In that manner they always arrive in good shape, but the boxes are so expensive that we make them returnable. We have said nothing of the black varieties as we have done nothing with them for fifteen years, as most consumers prefer the red, and these are certainly much more to cultivate, and they yield more per acre. The black kinds are much more liable to disease than the red kinds; we have seen but one trouble with the red kinds and that is the root gall, but that has not done any great damage as yet. There seems to be no remedy for root gall except to remove the canes as soon as it is noticed in the foliage, and burn at once. Many seem to fall in cultivating the red raspberry, why, we were never quite sure, except it requires careful handling which some may not be willing to give it. We hope more will continue the work as we must soon leave it.

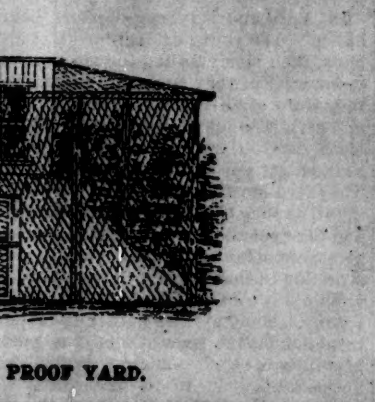
Notes and Queries.

NEW MEXICO.—E. J.: One advantage to the inhabitants of New Mexico from Statehood, when it comes with a changed name, will be the lifting of a cloud from the title of New Mexicans. In the whole territory of New Mexico there are, at a liberal estimate, not three hundred Mexicans, all told, and most of these are at all. Possibly two-thirds of the

people are all of Spanish descent, but, with very few exceptions, they have been under the American flag, on American soil, and educated in American public schools, and to call them Mexicans is just as improper and unfair as it would be to call Theodore Roosevelt a Dutchman because his ancestors may have come from Holland.

INAUGURATION AND MARCH THE FOURTH.—"N. & T.": To certain extent the choice of the date will be found wisdom in the chapter of accidents. The Congress of the Confederation had been advised, July 2, 1789, that the necessary nine States had approved the new constitution. Dispute over the seat of Government prevented prompt action, and it was not until the resolution of Sept. 12, 1789, that a date was set for the organization of the new Federal Government. In this resolution the first Wednesday of January was appointed for the choice of President, Electors, the first Wednesday of February for the choice of President and Vice President, and the first Wednesday in March (the 4th in 1789) for the organization of Government. The Presidential term being four years, that established March 4 as the day for the inauguration of the President. There were delays. The House of Representatives had no quorum until April 1, 1789, and the Senate not until April 4. The votes were on that day counted, showing Washington to be the unanimous choice of the ten States participating; he received official notification at Mount Vernon, April 14. John Adams (though not taking the oath until June 21, was installed as Vice President April 21, and on April 29 Washington was inaugurated in New York. To his second term he was inaugurated March 4, 1793.

WASH.'S NATIONALITY.—"A. P.": Benjamin West is to be classed as an American painter by



HOUSE WITH CAT-PROOF YARD.

reason of his birth in Pennsylvania, and the traditional instruction in the mixing of colors which he received from the Indians. But as he left America when he was twenty-two, studied in Italy, practiced his profession in London, became historical painter to the court of George III, and had little sympathy with his fellow Americans in their struggle for freedom, he is properly to be classed as one of the British artists. The details of his life and work are to be found in his life by Galt, published in London in 1890, the year of his death.

CHILDREN AND STUDY.—"M. J.": Dr. Duker, a German specialist, as the result of numerous and systematic observations on school children and older students, fixes the amount of intellectual work compatible with the normal development as follows: For pupils from five to eight years of age, ten hours a week; eight to ten years, twelve hours; ten to twelve years, twenty-one hours; twelve to fourteen years, twenty-four hours; fourteen to fifteen years, thirty hours; fifteen to sixteen years, thirty-five hours; sixteen to seventeen years, forty hours; seventeen to eighteen years, forty-five hours; eighteen to nineteen years, the maximum of fifty hours.

Brilliant.

There is a Power whose care
Teaches thy way along that pathless coast,
The deep's immittable air,
Less wandering, but not lost.

He who, from some to zone,
Guides through the boundless sky thy certain flight,
In the long way that I must tread alone,
Will lead my steps aright.

Oh! when shall all men's good
Be each man's rule, and universal peace
Lie like a shaft of light across the land,
And like a lane of beams across the sea,
Thro' all the circle of the golden sun.

A mighty Church shall come, whose covenant
word
Shall be the deeds of love. Not Creed then;
And shall be the password through his gates.
Man shall not ask his brother any more,
"Believest thou?" but "Lovest thou?" and all
Shall answer at God's altar, "Lord, I love." For
Hope may answer, Faith may steer, but
Love,
Great Love alone, is captain of the soul.

"If thou art blest,
Then let the sunshine of thy gladness rest
On the dark edges of each cloud that lies
Black in thy brother's skies.
If thou art sad,
Still be thou in thy brother's gladness glad."

In life—not death,
Hearts need fond words to help them on their way;
Need tender thoughts and gentle sympathy,
Carresses, pleasant looks, to cheer each passing day.

Then board them not until they useless be;
In life—not death,
Speak kindly; living hearts need sympathy.

Love thyself last; cherish those hearts that hate
thee;
Corruption wins not more than honesty.
Still in right hand carry gentle peace,
To silence envious tongues. Be just and fear not;
Let all the ends thou aim'st at be thy country's,
Thy God's, and Truth's.

Curious Facts.

—Forty years ago Japan had only one hundred and thirty thousand people, the largest of which runs sixty-three years.

—Only one-third of the world's population use bread as a daily article of food. Fully one-half of the people of the world subsist chiefly on rice.

—A new find in the use of acoustics is noted in Russia. To give the human body an agreeable odor, any desirable form of incense is injected into the veins.

—Eight thousand carrier pigeons are kept in use in the German army.

—There are twenty-seven Royal families in Europe, two-thirds of which are of German origin.

—A hive of five thousand bees should produce fifty pounds of honey every year, and multiply tenfold in five years.

—A prisoner accused in an English court of burglary presented to the judge a written confession when he was placed on trial. It began: "I hope and trust these few lines will find you quite well." He got three years (penal servitude).

—To be very cheap in China; in one province of the empire good tea is sold at three cents a pound.

—A church at Yverl, Somerset, England, was recently filled to the roof with a woman with a silver-headed cane.

—The habit of smoking has been considered among savage tribes for ages past, and

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BRADLEY'S FERTILIZERS

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Poetry.

BILL JONES.

Bill Jones, he was a curious chap,
He liked to be a clown,
When he had luck, he'd make a trap
He'd still make out to laugh,
An' wait for time to let him out;
He wouldn't get his hands out;
An' he'd take a "stomach" about—
He'd take things serious.

When trouble came to some good friend
He simply lent him aid,
An' didn't lecture him or send
His kindness on parade.
The luck he had was years went by
Was a rikin' an' mysterious;
We boosted Bill along, "cause why?
He didn't take things serious."

—Washington Star.

HOLDING HANDS.

You might long to hold her hand
If you saw it "neath the ruffles
Twinkle white as she shuffles;
If you felt its mute appealing,
Luring you to the while she's dealing;
You might long to hold her hand,
Wouldn't you?

But I long to hold her hand,
When its color brightly blushes,
Like a queen's, with royal flushes,
When she fills the vacant places
With the two remaining aces.
Then I long to hold her hand,
Why shouldn't I?

—GEORGE B. RYAN.

MEASUREMENTS.

Says I to Susan Simpkins,
In a friendly sort of way,
As we jogged along the turnpike
One pleasant summer day:
"I have thought the matter over
And as far as I can see,
I guess you are the woman
That is just the size for me."

I was rich and Susan wasn't,
For I owned a farm and more,
I owned a tract of timberland,
A sawmill and a horse and more.
While Susan earned her living
As a hired girl, and did
Her duty by her mother
And a little orphan kid.

But Susan, she was thrifty,
And so plump and fresh and fair,
That certainly there wasn't
Any finer anywhere.
Of course she wasn't my equal,
And her station wasn't mine,
But as Mrs. Hiram Higgins
She would have a chance to shine.

Then Susan Simpkins halted,
And she looked into my eyes,
Without a sign of thankfulness
Or natural surprise:
"I'm sorry, Mr. Higgins, sir;
Indeed, I am," she says,
"But when it comes to size
You are one too small for me."

—W. J. Lampton, in N. Y. Sun.

THE MAN WHO WINS.

The man who wins is the man who knows
The value of pain and the worth of woes—
The man who stands in his deep distress
With his head held high in the deadly press—
Yes, he is the man who wins.

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—Henry Edward Warner, in the Baltimore News.

TRUTH FROM THE PAPER CELL.

How much did Philadelphia pay?
Whose grass did K. C. Mo?
How many eggs could New Orleans lay?
How much does Cleveland O. pay?

What was it made Chicago III?
'Twas Washington, D. C.?
She would Tacoma Wash, in spite
Of a Baltimore kid.

When Hartford and New Haven, Conn.,
What Reuben, in the South?
Could Noah build a little Ark
If he had no Gutherie Ok?

We call Minneapolis Minn.,
Why not Annapolis Ann?
If you can't tell the reason why,
I'll bet Tepeka Kan.

But, now you speak of ladies, what
A Butte Montana is!
If I could borrow Memphis Tenn
I'd treat that Jackson Miss.

Would Denver Colo Cop because
Ottumwa Ia dore,
And, tho' my Portland Ore doth love,
I threw my Portland Ore—
—Lippincott's.

A TRYST.

I will not break the tryst, my dear,
That we have kept so long,
Though winter and its snows are here,
And I've no heart for song.

You went into the voiceless night;
Your path led far away,
Did you forget me, Heart's Delight,
As night forgets the day?

Sometimes I think that you would speak
If still you held me dear;
But space is vast, and I am weak—
Perchance I do not hear.

Surely, how'er remote the star,
Your wandering feet may tread,
When I shall pass the underlying bar
Our souls must still be wed.

—Louise Chandler Moulton, in The Century.

DOLLY'S LESSON.

Come here, you niggards,
I'm ashamed to have to 'fess
You don't know any letter
'Cept just your cookie S.

Now listen, and I'll tell you—
This round hole's name is O,
And when you pize a tail in,
It makes it O, you know.

And if it has a front door
To walk in at, it's C.
Then make a seat right here
To sit on, and it's G.

And this tall letter, dolly,
Is I and stands for ice;
And when it puts a hat on,
It makes a cup o' T.

And curly I is J dear
And half of B is P.
And E without his slippers on,
Is only F, you see!

You turn A upside downwards,
And people call it V;
And it's like this, like this one,
W'll be it.

Now, dolly, when you learn 'em,
You'll know a great big heap—
Most much's I—O dolly!
I believe you've come to sleep!

—The Youth's Companion.

Doubt's Department.

Hard to Find Woodcock Nest.

There are few more difficult things to detect
In nature than a woodcock sitting on her nest.
No well does the dropped plumage of the bird
Harmonize with the dead leaves of which the nest
is composed, or, it may be, with the withered
bracken that overhangs it; that it is hard to make
out much more than the sitting bird's dark
barred head and bright black eyes; to trace the
outline of the body is impossible.

Not is it easy to find the nest when the bird is
absent, for the cream colored eggs speckled with
brown are so like in color to the nest in which
they lie that an untrained eye would wonder
over them without detecting them.—London
Graphic.

A Memorable Contest.

It was, indeed, a memorable contest. Douglas,
the most skilled and plausible speaker in
the Democratic party, was battling for his
political life. He used every art, every resource,
and he was victorious. Opposed to him was a veritable
giant in stature—a man whose qualities of
mind and of body were as different from those
of the "Little Giant" as an eagle from a dove.
Lincoln was direct, forceful, logical, and clear,
with a purpose as strong as the steel of his
sword. He used every art, every resource, and
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Doth's Department.

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Miscellaneous.

Fair or Dark?

"Well, Madge, did Sir Geoffrey Pelham
propose last night? But never mind, of course
he didn't, or you wouldn't look so cross and
streaky this morning."

Lady Margaret, whose temper sometimes
matched her hair, was looking in her own particular
armchair beside the boudoir fire. Raising
lustrous eyes from the pages of the Morning
Post, she treated her sister Celia to a glassy
stare.

"Cross and streaky!" she repeated slowly.
"Well, I suppose it takes a fair woman to look
beaming and bloated by eleven o'clock in the
morning."

Celia, on tiptoe before the fireplace, smiled at
her own pink and white reflection in the mirror.
"When a man does not propose," she an-
nounced, apparently addressing the coal box,
"it is invariably the woman's fault. Why did
you manage so badly?"

"Either," proceeded Celia, "either you
smothered him atrociously or you encouraged him
indiscreetly. Which was it?"

Still silent.

Celia, though delighted with her own elo-
quence, felt that she had missed the bull's eye.
Twisting round on the fender stool she faced
her sister.

"Margaret," in a tragic whisper, "Margaret,"
were you mad enough to laugh at him?"

The Morning Post rustled impatiently.
"You think you know everything, Celia, but
you don't."

"But I mean to," replied the other signifi-
cantly, "and good intentions count for some-
thing. It's no use quibbling," she went on, "you
did or said something to give Geoffrey Pelham
What was it?"

Lady Margaret gave a mirthless laugh.
"Oh, he proposed right enough," she said.
The blue china eyes opened wide.
"Proposed, did he? Then why on earth—?"

Then Lady Margaret dropped the Morning
Post.

"Celia," she asked, "you admire dark men,
don't you?"

The whitening inquisitor blushed.
"Most awfully," she murmured, "but what of
that?"

"Nothing, only I don't; and last night I—"
"Good heavens," gasped Celia, "I believe you
told him so."

Silence.

"Margaret" (sternly) "I give you up. You
tell that peacock of a Geoffrey that you don't
admire him and then weep inside the Morning
Post because he didn't propose."

"Oh dear," moaned the culprit, "I only said
how queer it felt to find myself accepting him
when I'd loathed dark men all my life."

"And, pray, what did he say?" inquired Celia
with the air of the kind keeper to the prize in-
becelle.

"He—he jumped up, turned blacker than ever,
and said since he was personally repugnant to
me he would retract his unfortunate proposal."

"H'm," said Celia in scornful pity, "I should
think you and Sidney Rendie had better marry
each other."

"Sydney Rendie? Why?"

"Why not? He's almost an albino; fair
enough to please even you, I imagine, and he
loves dark women."

"How do you know?"

"He told me so."

"Told you so? When? Last night?"

"Yes; he was quite charming to me till we
went out to find a glowworm and then—then I
thought he was going to, but—but—"

"But he didn't," supplied Lady Margaret.
Drying her eyes she sat up.

"When a man doesn't propose," she quoted
"it is invariably the woman's fault. Why did
you manage so badly?"

"It was not my fault," cried Celia. "I neither
smothered nor encouraged him. I didn't laugh at
him nor encourage his appearance. It was he who
said all of a sudden and without any warning
that he had an aversion to fair women. Oh, it
was awful!" and Celia, too, produced her handker-
chief.

"And what did you say?"

"I said it was a pity he hadn't told me
so before, and that I hated, abhorred myself, and
glow worms, and balls, and—"

"If you please, my lady, Sir Geoffrey Pelham
is in the drawing room and begs you will see
him for one moment."

The maid addressed Lady Margaret, who after
a hasty interview with the mirror glanced inter-
rogatively at her sister.

"Yes, of course," cried Celia; "go at once, but
don't forget to rave about his Spanish profile,"
she called out as Margaret flitted down the
stairs.

"A note for you, my lady," said the maid, re-
entering, and Celia, glancing at the salver, saw
the well-known handwriting.

"Fair lady," she read, "I interrupted me
last night in the middle of an important sentence.
Understanding is costly, so I write to put one
fact beyond its reach. As I tried to tell you, I
always felt an aversion to fair women till I met
you. Since then I am indifferent to all women,
fair or dark, excepting one. In spite of her
reputation for fair men, the expression of which
drove me last night to supper and despair, I
hereby entreat that one to marry me. At least
we will be till we meet in that dark say-
ing! Please send me a fair answer.—Yours,
Sidney Rendie."

"P.S.—I will dye if you wish. What can a
lover say more?"

"Celia," cried Lady Margaret, darting into
the room, "Geoffrey says we must be one soul,
because our eyelashes are duplicates; he says
contrast makes conflict, that 'like-to-like' is a
law of nature, and that I'm bound to admire him
sooner or later, because—"

"May I come in?" said Sidney Rendie in the
doorway. "I got tired of waiting in the library,
so I followed Lady Margaret upstairs."

"So did I," echoed Sir Geoffrey over her should-
er.

"Waiting," exclaimed Celia, with a lame
severely, "waiting for what?"

"For my answer," replied Sidney, as he took
her hand.

Lady Margaret retired hastily to the window;
the Spanish profile followed, and at last, "I do
not admire niggers, still there is an exception to
every rule. But are you sure you would not look
better with a contrast for a wife?"

"You double all my effects," he replied (not
referring to her dowry). "Matches, you know,
not contracts, are made in heaven."—George
Frost, in London Tailor.

Doubt's Department.

Hard to Find Woodcock Nest.

There are few more difficult things to detect
In nature than a woodcock sitting on her nest.
No well does the dropped plumage of the bird
Harmonize with the dead leaves of which the nest
is composed, or, it may be, with the withered
bracken that overhangs it; that it is hard to make
out much more than the sitting bird's dark
barred head and bright black eyes; to trace the
outline of the body is impossible.

Not is it easy to find the nest when the bird is
absent, for the cream colored eggs speckled with
brown are so like in color to the nest in which
they lie that an untrained eye would wonder
over them without detecting them.—London
Graphic.

It was, indeed, a memorable contest. Douglas,
the most skilled and plausible speaker in
the Democratic party, was battling for his
political life. He used every art, every resource,
and he was victorious. Opposed to him was a veritable
giant in stature—a man whose qualities of
mind and of body were as different from those
of the "Little Giant" as an eagle from a dove.
Lincoln was direct, forceful, logical, and clear,
with a purpose as strong as the steel of his
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of the "Little Giant" as an eagle from a dove.
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he was victorious.

I do not expect the Union to be dissolved, I do
not expect the house to fall—but I do expect it
will come to be divided. It will become all one
thing or all the other; and he went on to say
that there was grave danger it might become all
slaves. He showed how little by little, slavery
had been gaining ground, until all it lacked now
was another supreme Court decision to make it
all law in all the States, North as well as
South. The great peril came home to the people
of the North with startling force, and thereafter
all eyes were fixed upon the Senatorial campaign
in Illinois.

The battle continued for nearly three months.
Besides the seven great joint debates each man
spoke daily, sometimes two or three times a
day, at meetings of his own. Once before
their audiences, Douglas' dignity as a Senator
afforded him no advantage, Lincoln's popularity
gave him little help. Face to face with the fol-
lowers of each, gathered in immense numbers
and alert with jealous watchfulness, there
was no escaping the right test of skill in
argument and truth in principle. The presen-
tations and answers, the moods and counter-
moods of both parties were studied and followed
by the listeners to the three hours battle of
mind against mind.

Northern Illinois had been peopled largely
from the free States, and southern Illinois from
the slave States; thus the feeling about slavery
in the two parts was very different. To take ad-
vantage of this, Douglas, in the very first debate,
which took place at Ottawa, in northern Illinois,
asked Lincoln seven questions, hoping to make

him, which correspond to the four legs of a horse
and to the wings and legs of a bird. A curious
back-sitting children protects the delicate girls,
and it is probable that this extended long before
the House appeared. All is still of gritty car-
riage.

In the higher fishes, bone replaces the carti-
lage; and when the lovely tadpole—dark like at
first, swimming about by means of the fin around
his tail—pushes forth his legs and climbs upon
the land, our skeleton is well on its way bird-
ward.

Species of old took to trees; their backbone
grew into flexible so that they might safely sail
through the air; feathers replaced scales; two
fingers of each hand were lost, and one from
each foot tooth disappeared; a bank of horn
proved both intelligence increased and the fore-
head rose high, and behold—a bird!—O. William
Beane, in the Outlook Magazine.

God's mightiest agents are yet in reserve,
not in the category of convincing arguments, but
in the fountain of spiritual force which streams
from the inspired lives of devoted men.—J. H.
Thom.

I am willing to work, but I want work that
I can put my heart into, and feel that it does me
good, no matter how hard it is.—Louisa M. Al-
cott.

Lord, grant me one suit, which is this, deny
me all suits which are bad for me; when I per-
ceive for what is unfitting, oh let the King of

Heaven make use of His negative voice. Rather
let me fast than have quails given with intent
that I should be choked in eating them.—Thomas
Peller.

...Coming to love God is like climbing a high
mountain. It takes you out of the low valley of
formal life. It sets you upon the open summit
of spiritual sympathy, close to the sun.—Phillips
Brooks.

Happy will that house be in which the rela-
tions are formed from character; after the high-
est and not after the lowest order; the house in
which character marries, and not confusion and
a miscellany of unavowed motives. Then
shall marriage be a covenant to secure to either
party the sweetness and honor of being a calm,
containing, inevitable benefactor to the other.—
Emerson.

The half-hearted are not fit for the king-
dom of God. Are they fit for any kingdom
worth having?—W. E. Blomfield.

Both prophecies were fulfilled. Douglas
answered as was expected; and though, in
actual numbers, the Republicans of Illinois
cast more votes than the Democrats, a
Legislature was chosen that re-elected him to
the Senate. Two years later, Lincoln, who in
1858 had not the remotest dream of such a thing,
found himself the successful candidate of the
Republican party for President of the United
States.—From Helen Nicolay's "The Boy's Life
of Lincoln," in March St. Nicholas.

Enough.

Governor Hogg's frankness in naming his
children is quite equaled by a Washingtonian,
whose wife presented him with twin daughters.
At the christening the minister was startled to
learn that the father had decided to name them
Rosa and Dupont.

Several years later twins were again born into
the family—this time boys, who were duly named
Peter and Repeater.

A third time this strenuous opponent of race
mixtures was blessed with twins, and this time
he truly named the two little Max and
Climax.—Karl von Kraft, in Lippincott's.

She Couldn't Draw It.

A school teacher one day, during the hour for
drawing, suggested to her pupils that each draw
what he or she would like to be when grown up.
At the end of the lesson one little girl showed
an empty slate.

"Why," said the teacher, "isn't there any-
thing you would like to be when you grow up?"

"Yes," said the little girl, "I would like to be
married, but I don't know how to draw it."—
Life.

About Your Backbone.

The history of the backbone, like that of most
life, is not altogether a matter of upward
growth; it has its tragedies and its comedies, its
hopes and failures. In the waters along our
coast are creatures, some sponge or lobster-
like, others with strange bulb-like bodies, grow-
ing on the end of long stalks. "Almost we call
them plumes," but they hold a secret from the
crabs and snails which crawl about, and when
the stalks break against them it is their poor old
selves only know it—they might claim a head
broken off.

When they were young, for a little while a
gritty oar was their also, but this, with all the
hopes that such a beginning brings, of fish, of
bird, of man, even, soon melted away, and there
they and their kind in the watery currents, were
at the mercy of the opportunity which nature had
snatched from them—why, who can tell?

In sharks, the backbone has become flexible
and scissile, and a rude kind of skull is present;
the still more important is the presence of four

no suggestion of the old-time water proof male
rib, have undergone the crustaceous process,
and are now available for motor, sporting, trav-
eling and wet or other costumes, as able as they
are practical.

Some smart walking costumes of feathered
tailor slash are shown with plain the covert
costs and skirts of indecent check or small
plaid in ten shades harmonizing perfectly with
the covert cloth.

Plain pinnares, surges, rollings, broad-
cloths and mohairs are offered in all the season's
colorings, and many women are selecting them
in place of the checks and mixed suitings be-
cause of the graceful of popularity with which
the latter are threatened.

Vellies have become perennial favorites,
and are out this spring in every imaginable
form—striped, checked, plaid, embroidered,
dotted. Some very attractive white vellies are
plaid in moderate lines, but the plaid design is
obtained by the waving, not by coloring, alter-
nating lines of very sheer and of heavier weave
producing the desired effect. The same idea is
also developed in the light gray and mode
colored and sometimes over the one tone plaid
surface will run a two or three inch check marked
off in the finest hairline of some delicate pastel
color.

Chiffon mohairs are surprisingly soft and
supple this year and run a wonderful color
gamut, including many particularly pretty
mixed effects in delicate neutral tones, as well
as the ubiquitous checks.

Oris, though vivid for hot weather, is

Genes of Thought.

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not in the category of convincing arguments, but
in the fountain of spiritual force which streams
from the inspired lives of devoted men.—J. H.
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dom of God. Are they fit for any kingdom
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Fashion Notes.

Never were materials for the first spring
costumes more truly vernal than they are this
year. The white and black and light mixed
grays, which lead in the new suitings, strike a
clear and delicate color note, and the innumera-
ble variations upon these ideas are the most
noteworthy thing about the new street frocks.

Smooth finished woollens in soft mixed
colorings of light tones seem to have allowed the
rougher tweeds and homespun a side, and of
check and bar and plaid patterns there is no end.
A majority of the latter show a white on delicate
neutral ground, crossed off by halflines of black
or of black and blue, black and violet, etc. In
some cases there is no black line at all, and the
checks are worked by lines of color, but the
materials in which black and colored lines are
combined have rather more character and distin-
ction.

Small two-tone black checks and broken
small plaids in shades of some neutral
color vie with the halflines checks in popularity
and both in the smoky grays and the modes or
tones these designs enter largely into the new
suitings.

And by the way, cravatette suitings new
in these mixed checks, showing shadings
of one color. Light weight fine twill blue serges
and mixed grays and tans of all kinds, holding

always included in the summer toilette scheme
of the Parisian, and among the modistes there
are some most attractive cravats and white com-
binations. The pin point dots of white scattered
thickly on a gleaming cravat surface and the fine
lines of white set closely together on a cravat
ground, give, perhaps, the daintiest and coolest
effects among these cravat and white combina-
tions, and a pretty silk in of the finest possible
black and white check.

Fences of all kinds in their natural shades
promise to have much favor, and in several
of the most exclusive shops are shown imported
frocks of natural broad gauge trimmed in black
silk, satin or velvet, but brightened only by
creamy lines at the collar and in the sleeves.
One sees, too, some particularly chic hats in
burnt straw of shades much like those of the
poppies and natural toned flannels, trimmed in
black satin or velvet and clusters of black cord
tips; and, though this tan and black combi-
nation is not particularly becoming, it has much
smartness when worn by the right woman.

Grays of all tones are common—among silks
as well as suitings, gray and white stripes or
checks of individualized modistes with dots or
circles of delicate color sprinkled over the sur-
face being among the more youthful of the gray
modesties, taffetas and radium.—N. Y. Sun.

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Grays of all tones are

The Horse.

A Sire of Speed.

A stallion to be an ideal sire of light-harness horses must possess a rare combination of valuable qualities. The most important of these qualities is a strong speed inheritance. Extreme speed will always command a higher price than any other single quality. A stallion may possess phenomenal speed ability, however, and still not be a success as a sire of race winners or even of the class of horses that is most profitable for the average breeder to raise, owing to a lack of other important qualities.

In addition to an inheritance of extreme trotting speed ability, the ideal light-harness stock horse must possess a strong inheritance of unfinishing courage and great endurance. He must be well proportioned, strong at every point where strength is required, either for the carriage or saddle, yet free from blemishes of greenness, and from ancestors that are free from all forms of hereditary unsoundness. He must also be from ancestors that possess beauty, style and quality combined with size and substance, good all-round action, a pleasant disposition and level head. He must be true-gaited, a free, pleasant driver, kind and tractable in stable and harness, have plenty of ambition yet not pull on the bit, fearless of all strange objects encountered in city streets or on country roads.

A good inheritance is of the greatest importance. It is the chief requisite of success. Unless a stallion is from a long line of ancestors that were noted for the above qualities he is liable to prove a disappointment in many cases, though as an individual he may seem to be highly endowed with all that is requisite to insure his success as a sire and perpetuator of speed, courage, gameness, beauty, soundness, etc. The law of heredity including atavism or "throwing back" is such that if any one of the ancestors for several generations, especially within four or five removes, were markedly deficient in any valuable quality or suffered from any form of hereditary unsoundness, a certain proportion of his get are sure to throw back and exhibit the undesirable trait.

Breeder's Notes.

Speaking of the demand for good horses a few days since, a New England horseman remarked that "there are plenty of men looking for a horse worth \$1000, for which they are willing to pay from \$150 to \$250," but such horses are scarce.

Farmers who have horses to sell will find that the money paid for a few extra bushels of good oats and a little extra time spent every day with a good brush and clean rag, will prove a good investment.

Many who have colts are discouraged by the reports of fast workouts by the colts of the warmer sections. Without any attempt to detract from the qualities of the Southern-raised colts, how much greater a percentage proportionately of all those one hears showing sensational fast gets to the races over those raised in New England? I for one believe that if the figures were compiled showing the relative proportion of those raised South that showed fast and those raised in New England that were actually trained we would compare very favorably with the others. Take, for instance, the Kentucky Futurity. Of the thirteen winners seven were raised and trained in the warmer portions of the country, four of the others were raised and trained in the North, while two others, though raised South, received their preparation in the cold climate. Isn't that a pretty fair test?

Sometimes one is asked what to put on a sand-crack "so as to make it invisible." It may be mentioned here—not, of course, to assist the owner of a horse with a sand-crack in "taking in" a prospective purchaser, or fraudulently disposing of it as a sound animal, but to put the inexperienced on their guard against such tricks—that thing in the crack with guinea pebbles, heel-balls, etc., is often resorted to for the purpose of hiding the defect in horses offered for sale. When either of these substances is run into the fissure with a hot iron, and neatly smoothed off or sand-papered down when cold, and the feet well blacked over and splashed with mud or covered with dust, a sand-crack may easily escape superficial observation. Well-blacked hoofs should always be closely scrutinized when buying horses of strangers, at sales, auctions or without warranty. In examining any horse for soundness it is wise to have the hoofs washed.

Among the good colts trotters of their various years that were New England bred and trained are Sadie Mae (3) (2:14), Admiral Dewey (3) (2:14), Nico (3) (2:14), Totaro (2) (2:14), timed in 2:10 1/2 as a three-year-old; Lord Revelstoke (3) (2:12), timed in 2:10 1/2; Lord Robert, that as a three-year-old was timed in 2:14 in a race; Silence that drove Bon Voyage (3) (2:12) to his mark; Kalkar, that was timed in 2:14 last season as a three-year-old; The Minute Man that as a three-year-old trotted in 2:15 in a race; Cochato that showed 2:14 1/2 when two; Todd, whose sensational flight of speed when a two-year-old is still fresh in the public mind; Kyrrille, that as a three-year-old trotted in 2:15; X. L.'s Brother (3) (2:16) and others.—Horse Breeder.

Continued Firmness in Butter Markets.

Arrivals of fancy and No. 1 grades are in limited quantity. Prices would be higher were it not for the storage goods which are abundant and include many lots of excellent quality. There is no trouble in selling extra creamery at top prices, but most lots are still below the standard at the most favorable time of the year, having the wintry flavor.

The flow, however, is rapidly increasing and butter manufacture is sure to gain from now on, although the recent unfavorable weather will no doubt delay the pasture season somewhat, and thus give dealers more time to work off the stock on hand. On the whole, the butter situation has improved by recent developments and dealers have much less uneasiness as to the outcome. Dairy butter is in light supply and not much of choice quality. The various butter substitutes are not selling to any great extent. Storage butter is being taken care of as fast as could be expected, and fresh butter put up in box and print form is in steady demand at the usual relative range of prices.

The New York market holds fairly firm on fine and fancy creamery, with a pretty good demand. There is no increase in the proportion of high-grade goods and the trade is absorbing the receipts quite closely. Undergrades are still having a slow sale and values are uneasiness. The price depends very largely upon the buyer and the amount of stock the receiver has on hand. A very wide range in quotations is necessary to cover current transactions. There have been considerable sales of

fancy hold creamery at 24 1/2 to 25 cents, and the temper of the market is a little stronger. It would be difficult to shade the inside figure on anything that would pass as extra, and for the high-creamery lots 24 1/2 to 25 cents has been paid for good-sized lots. Qualities well worth 24 to 25 cents also have fair demand, but below that figure the market drags at irregular prices. High grades of renovated have a moderate inquiry at about late prices, but the feeling is weak on other qualities.

One outlet for the large and increasing make of oleomargarine is suggested by the reports of United States exports, which show an increase of more than thirty-five per cent in the oleo from 1905 compared with 1904. Butter exports have also been quite large, one firm shipping across several thousand packages of the lower grades of butter the past few weeks.

A very favorable feature in the New York cheese market is a renewal of export interest in the finer grades of full cream cheese. Sales have been made of five hundred boxes large full cream white and one hundred boxes of large colored, with negotiations reported pending on several other lots, with buyers offering more money than paid week before last. This is an indication of a shortage and better feeling on the other side and tends to add to the strength of the situation here. Exporters are also looking for good value underpried and have taken three to four hundred boxes of skims. Advice from the West reports a more confident feeling there and we do not hear of further offerings from that direction. The local home trade demand continues fairly active, though buying is still confined to small lots for immediate use. Stocks are reducing in a very satisfactory manner and market is certainly gaining strength, though no change has been made in the official quotations.

Latest cable advice to George A. Cochran from the principal markets of Great Britain report butter markets in a very depressed condition. The enormous arrivals from the Antipodes have caused heavy accumulations, and holders pressing for sale have made values very uncertain, and quotations are purely nominal. American butter is very much neglected. Finest grades: Danish 23 1/2 to 24 cents, New Zealand 21 to 22 cents, Australian 20 to 21 cents, Russian 20 to 21 cents, American creamery 16 to 18 cents, ladies 16 to 17 cents, renovated, unquotable. Cheese markets are again higher, and with stocks diminishing fast, holders are very firm. Finest American and Canadian 13 1/2 to 14 cents.

Apples Held Firm in Price.

Apples are in light supply and prices fully maintained, with \$4 to \$5 the range for first quality in the standard varieties, but Ben Davis is not much in favor in this market when anything else can be obtained, and sells lower than Baldwin. Russets range a little lower than Baldwin, but they are likely to have the market chiefly to themselves during the latter part of the season, and probably can be sold to better advantage if kept longer.

Stormy Weather Checks Egg Receipts.

Eggs hold steady, notwithstanding the rather large receipts. Were it not for the unfavorable weather no doubt arrivals would be much larger at this season, with Easter approaching. The range for New England eggs is 15 to 21 cents, with a few fancy special lines selling a little higher. Western eggs range from 16 to 17 cents. There are quite a number of duck eggs now arriving. Goose eggs are still scarce, but will begin to arrive soon. Dealers think the price will range around \$1 per dozen.

The severe and stormy weather put a new face on the general egg market, cutting off supplies and restricting production to some extent. The result is a firm, and even an advancing, condition in some of the leading markets. Dealers of course believe such conditions are temporary and no great advance is likely at this season, but the market may hold strong for some time with so much snow on the ground in all sections of the country. It is realized also that hens which have been laying so freely all the winter season will not be such heavy producers in the spring, and receipts may be lighter than usual in April and May.

The weather has changed the storage situation somewhat also. A while ago it looked as if the price might start as low as 14 cents for storage packed Western stock, but actual sales are being made between 15 and 16 cents at various points on the Atlantic coast, and the going price at present is likely to be close to 16 cents. The old storage stock has been mostly cleared out, the clearance having been assisted somewhat by colder weather. Prices were low, but holders felt that any price was better than to be compelled to throw away part of their stock, an outcome which seemed possible at one time. It would seem that after such a disastrous experience as that of last year the egg storers would have little enthusiasm for the coming season, but some of the larger operators store about the same quantity year after year without regard to past results, depending on the average of a number of years to secure their profit. The smaller storage people are likely to lose courage somewhat, and it is to be hoped they will, else another year of over-doing the business might result.

The reserve stock of eggs in New York market was considerably depleted by the activity noted last week, and receivers have felt that liberal supplies would be necessary this week in order to furnish the consumptive trade with stock at about recent prices. A good deal of uncertainty has been felt as to the scale of receipts this week, owing to the recent unfavorable weather prevailing in the West, and the light arrivals have naturally given a very strong tone to the market. This has, however, not been sufficient to establish any advance in prices as yet, as it is known that a good many lots are coming in which

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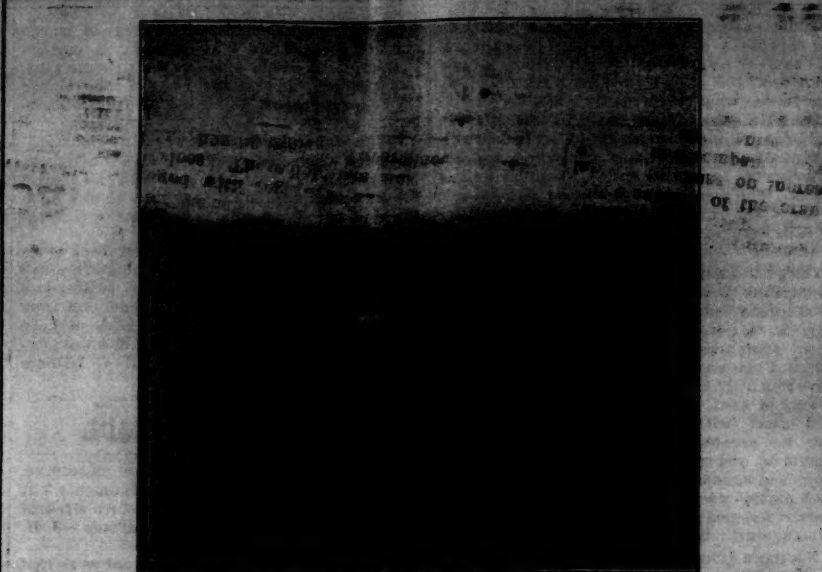
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PICTURESQUE VIEW OF PORT ANTONIO HARBOR, JAMAICA FROM THE HOTEL TITCHFIELD.

have not yet been reported. Sales under the call on 'Change were 180 cases Western first spot and one hundred cases, seller tomorrow at 16 cents. The demand at that price is considerably in excess of the supply, but except in a few instances dealers are not sufficiently anxious to obtain goods to bid higher prices and we leave the quotations practically unchanged, pending fuller information as to the extent of the week's receipts. Occasional sales of exceptionally fine quality, however, are reported at a slight premium. Undergrades are selling well at proportionate figures and dirty eggs are quoted a shade higher under very good demand.

Grain Crops in the Northeast.

The Government crop report of March places the grain crop in the New England and New York states as follows: Corn—Maine, 446,900; New Hampshire, 1,300,000; Vermont, 2,090,800; Massachusetts, 1,870,900; Rhode Island, 525,000; Connecticut, 2,374,500; New York, 19,313,744. Only three of the States mentioned produce enough wheat to be stated in the report. Maine is credited with 181,240 bushels, Vermont with 37,467 and New York with 10,500,941. The oat crop is as follows: Maine, 4,343,444; New Hampshire, 300,207; Vermont, 3,003,924; Massachusetts, 205,904; Rhode Island, 47,183; Connecticut, 347,666; New York, 45,000,782. While New York holds its own fairly well in wheat growing, it is evident that the crop is nearly all in the New England States.

The oat crop, however, is still quite a feature in the Northeast, and corn is grown to an important extent in each of the States although the total corn yield is, of course, extremely small compared with the central corn growing region in the prairie States. Even the 19,000,000 corn crop of New York State looks small beside nearly 300,000,000 for Illinois.

Snow Helped Lumbermen.

When asked as to the lumbering condition in Maine, Forest Commissioner Ring said: "The recent storm which extended over the whole State has been a great help to the lumbering interests. At this time practically all the logs are on the landings, and excepting in southern Washington and Hancock counties, it has been one of the greatest winters known for logging. As a result there will be a large supply of logs for the pulp and paper mills the coming season. I do not mean by this that there will be an overstock, because with the great demand for lumber and paper it will all be needed. Of course much depends upon the spring rains for getting all the logs to the mills, and while there is not a large supply of snow in the woods for this time of year it would seem owing to the long continued dry period it is not unreasonable to expect at least the usual amount of spring rains. The situation looks extremely good for a prosperous season for all of our lumber, pulp and paper industries. Prices are sure to be high because the larger part of our Eastern and Middle States are looking to Maine for their lumber and paper supply."

Poultry Selling Well.

The poultry market is not noticeably changed except in a few lines, and these are changes in the upward direction. Receipts have been somewhat interfered with, and while demand is not at all unusual, it is amply sufficient to take care of desirable stock on hand. Poultry continues in excellent request, at as high as 16 cents for choice nearby stock. Even Western refrigerator stock brings 15 cents. Choice broilers bring 25 to 26 cents for fresh killed lots from New England and nearby. Turkeys are in light supply, and not much wanted at this season. Live poultry is in light supply, with no change in prices. Chickens quote a little lower than fowl, being at this time very undesirable, and mostly over-grown cockerels, rather tough and staggish.

At New York with bad roads reported in most all shipping sections, with collections difficult, receipts of fresh killed have fallen off fifty to sixty per cent, and supplies of fresh fowl, which comprise the bulk of the fresh killed poultry coming, are expected to be very light this week. Trading is very slow, but feeling is stronger, and prices fully one-half cent higher. Frozen poultry is in large accumulation and there are advices of large lots on the way, which are being urged for sale at irregular prices.

Dull Potato Market.

The potato situation remains in a rut of low prices and dullness, with neither buyers nor sellers apparently anxious to do business by departing from the regular line of quotations which has prevailed for some time past. The ruling price for the best variety is not over 35 cents, while the lowest from Prince Edward Island is sometimes as low as 45 cents. Some dealers claim that the situation is a little better this week. A large shipper from the Annapolis section thinks about four-fifths of the crop has been shipped forward from that section, and that the rest of it will be mostly cleared out by the middle of April. Quite a lot of stock which has been held in New York in a speculative way is being turned on the market, the holders being urged with regard to the expected rise in prices. These holdings must show quite a loss, having been held over since last fall.

Vegetables Pretty Steady.

The vegetable market as a whole averages about as last week, although there are numerous changes in various special-

ties; some quote higher and some lower. Beets have been a little weak in price the past few months, selling now for 75 cents for natives and 80 cents for Western. Cabbages continue very high, quoting \$2.50 for best stock. There are but few on the market. Celery is scarce and high. Cucumbers are more plenty than last week and considerably lower. Dandelions, lettuce, beets, corn and radishes show slight change. Rhubarb declines lower, considerable Southern and California stock being on the market. The quotation is for both home grown, cellar rhubarb selling a little lower than hothouse.

Supplies of potatoes are ample and demand not very brisk. Prices show no particular change, but the situation may be called weaker rather than stronger, holders appearing more anxious to effect sales.

The New York market for old domestic potatoes holds about steady, though offerings liberal and outside farmers not easily reached; European stock is selling slowly at unimproved prices. New and second crop potatoes are in good demand except Southern, which move rather slowly. Sweet potatoes steady. Artichokes are plenty and weak. Asparagus is in light receipt and somewhat firmer, with some holders asking a little more than quoted. Choice beets and carrots are in good demand. Old cabbages hold firm and high, except red, which continues weak. Southern new cabbages selling promptly. Celery is in active demand and firm. Kale and spinach nominal in absence of important fresh receipts. Florida lettuce is in heavy supply and lower; a few fancy marks brought \$2.25 to \$2.50, but general sales from \$1 to \$2, and very poor ranged lower; more northerly stock seldom exceeding \$1 to \$1.50. Domestic onions are nearly all poor and dragging at low and irregular figures; fancy would exceed quotations. New onions including beets and shallots are selling promptly. Peppers plenty and weak. Parsley steady. Romaine lower. Green peas are in light supply, but generally all poor. String beans more plenty, but more or less spotted and selling slowly from \$4 down, though strictly fancy would command \$5.50 to \$6. Squash steady. Turnips are held at former prices. Tomatoes show no improvement in quality or value. Watermelon is in free supply and cheap. Other vegetables range about as quoted.

Mr. Clark on the Apple Outlook.

The well-known Williamsburg apple grower, J. E. Clark, expects a moderately large crop of apples in this section the coming season, and, in fact, for the whole country. He argues that not more than two large crops are to be expected in seven years, judging by the past average of records. During the past three years there have been two large crops, hence he would expect a succession of smaller crops, notwithstanding the fact that last year's crop was not a large one. His own orchard indicates a moderate crop, judging by the present condition of the fruit buds.

Veal in Good Request.

Beef holds fairly well at last week's quotations, showing, however, little weakness in some grades. Mutton is in light supply and inclined a little higher except for the low grades, which range around \$10 to \$11. Lamb is in fair supply at 18 to 21 cents. Veals are plenty, but prices show not the slightest weakness, some fancy lots running as high as 12 cents, and 10 to 11 cents being the regular quotations for standard qualities.

Boston Milk Supply Moderate.

The following statement, compiled from figures furnished by the companies, shows the quantities of milk brought into Boston during the month of February over the three railroads: Boston Albany, 1,505,300 quarts; Boston & Maine, 5,300,630 quarts; New York, New Haven & Hartford, 1,000,007 quarts, as compared with: Boston & Albany, 1,332,604 quarts; Boston & Maine, 6,167,304 quarts; New York, New Haven & Hartford, 1,287,393 quarts for January.

A good demand is reported for rhubarb in all leading markets, the active trade being due to the scarcity and high price of apples. All kinds are selling well, especially California rhubarb, which is very fine in appearance, and arrives in better condition than might be expected after the long journey. Celar grown rhubarb continues to sell a little lower than either hothouse or California stock.

We turn our eyes to the results of the last crop. Some shipments came in such bad condition that they were wholly useless, not even paying the shipping expense, and even for the best stock the price has been very low. It is claimed that the average will be considerably reduced this year. In some cases growing sections it is reported that a part of the crop will have to be thrown away, being in too poor condition to market.

Florida strawberries are arriving more freely and the price working lower. Now that the fruit comes in our lots sales are made in a wholesale way, with lower quotations the result. Florida celery is arriving quite freely in New York. Prices are good and Southern growers expect the crop will be one of the most profitable this season. The season of the cranberry season is supply to come on tomorrow. It is estimated that the crop will be about 1,000,000 bushels, including the estimated 1,000,000 in Maine.

Receipts of single sugar and syrup continue very light, and scarcely enough to

hold in being close to quote prices. In a small way about 100 cases of heavy syrup at \$1.

Cheese holds steady at the recent quotations, with no sign of inclination to cut prices. In fact it looks as if any change would be rather in an upward direction than down. Top figures in Dutch cheese are 10 to 11 cents for ordinary modified quality.

The two specialties, apples and cabbages, lead the produce market in their upward course. At one time the cabbage situation looked badly, but late prices have been climbing fast and prices range around \$3.00 for good white stock in New York city, while apples hold well at the high level and demand is good, considering the sum consumers have to pay. After grocers have made their profit apples are one of the most costly luxuries of the season. The supply is becoming scanty and even further advances before the end of the season are quite possible. Fruit out of cold storage seems to have kept well, and some very fancy stock of this class may be seen in both the New York and Boston markets.

Cranberries are a scarce article in New

York city, only a few hundred crates being present in stock, and holders are almost any price they choose to ask, provided any one wishes to buy such expensive luxuries. Big profits have been made by those who bought early and put into storage.

A recently published report is unprofitable to the grower this year is the field crop. Quite a proportion of the New England crop was bought up in the fall at around \$1.50 to \$1.75 per bushel and has to be sold now at \$1.50 to \$1.60.

It is expected that the Bermuda onion crop will be only about three hundred thousand cases, which is a considerable shortage from early expectations.

Cuban vegetable growers are renewing their courage with the cessation of rains and the coming of sunny, favorable weather. Good prices are reported from recent shipments from the island.

One of the fruit-importing companies is laying plans to import large quantities of bananas from Honduras. Up to this time the industry has been of little account in that country, but both the culture and the handling of the fruit will be taken in hand by the best modern methods.

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